

Mystery at the Museum!

Key Stage 2 Family Detective Project

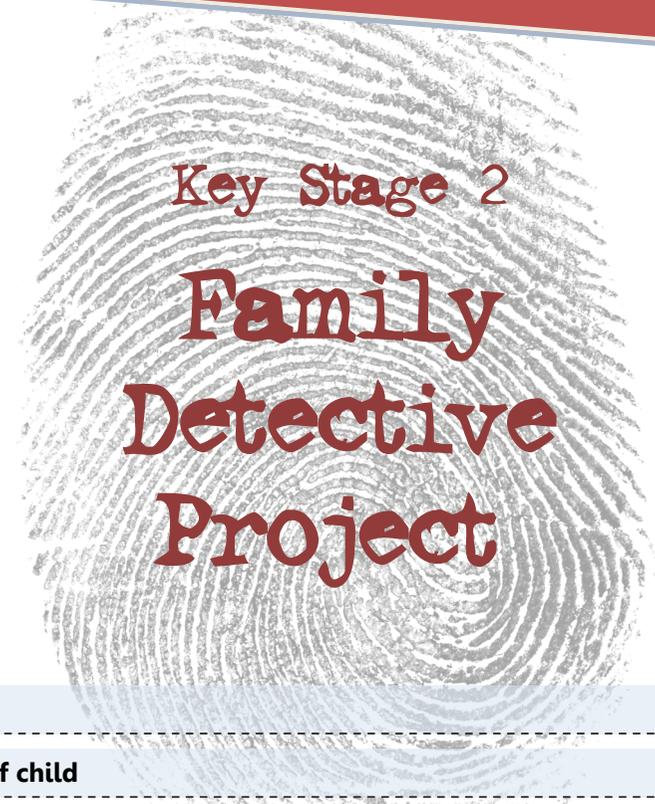


Keep encouraging your child to read!

We want to know what you thought about the project – please fill in the evaluation form!

Mystery at the Museum!

PARENTS' HANDBOOK



Key Stage 2

Family Detective Project

School

Name of child

Other people in the detective team

This project will show you how to help your child develop their reading skills



Why are we doing this project?



- + **Parents can do a lot** to help their children read better
- + Lots of parents have said that they aren't sure how to help their child read as they get older
- + Even when a child can **read** words, they might not always **understand** what they're reading!
- + Reading skills can make a big difference to how well a child succeeds in life

The project is about:

- + families having fun solving a crime together
- + getting children motivated to read and understand what they are reading (in order to find the clues)
- + showing parents how they can support their child in developing their reading skills (even when they can recognise words).

"Parents, carers... anyone with a child in their life can make a huge difference by reading for just 10 minutes a day."

National Literacy Trust

"Children who read daily outside class are five times more likely to perform above the expected level for their age in reading than their peers."

National Literacy Trust

Studies show that good readers make an average of £80,000 more in their lifetimes than non readers



For tips on hearing your child read, see

www.topmarks.co.uk/parents/ten-tips-on-hearing-your-child-read



What can we do at home to help practise these skills?

Play the yes/no game: Person A thinks of someone and Person B has to ask questions to find out who it is. Person A can only say "yes" or "no".

Tick here when you have practised these skills at home!

What can we do at home to help practise these skills?

When your child is reading a fiction book, ask them to tell you about their favourite character.

What does this character look like? What's their personality like? What does your child like about them?

Tick here when you have practised these skills at home!

What can we do at home to help practise these skills?

Watch or read a mystery story/film. Stop half way through and talk about who you think did it and why.



Tick here when you have practised these skills at home!

What can we do at home to help practise these skills?

Read the letters page of a newspaper. Can you and your child find some facts, and some opinions?



Tick here when you have practised these skills at home!

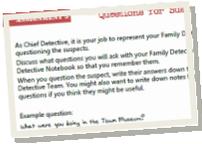
Well done for completing all your detective assignments.
Your Family Detective Team deserves a certificate!



Family checklist (continued)

Assignment 5

Questioning the suspects



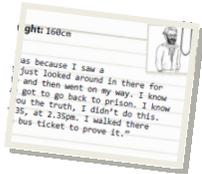
What will it help your child to learn?

- + How to ask relevant questions

Tick here when your family has completed the assignment!

Assignment 6

Witness statements



What will it help your child to learn?

- + To collect evidence from text
- + To read between the lines to work out what characters are like

Tick here when your family has completed the assignment!

Assignment 7

Who stole the scarab beetle?



What will it help your child to learn?

- + To draw conclusions
- + To discuss and justify their opinions

Tick here when your family has completed the assignment!

Assignment 8

Fact & opinion in newspaper articles



What will it help your child to learn?

- + To discuss different opinions
- + To understand the difference between fact & opinion

Tick here when your family has completed the assignment!

Tick here when your family has completed all 8 assignments!

This handbook tells you about

- + the different assignments (tasks) you have to do
- + what they will help your child to learn
- + how you can help them continue to develop and practise those skills even after the project is finished

We will be sending home 7 different assignments for you to do with your child at home. Your child should do the writing, but you can help by asking them questions and talking to them.

At the end of the project, there will be a meeting for children and families. You'll get to say who you think did the theft, explain your evidence, and find out the answer.

You could also...

- + Visit a museum
- + Visit your local library together and to find books for your child to read. Maybe you could look for books about detectives, or books about Ancient Egypt!

Not sure what books to read? Try these...

- "*Awful Egyptians*" by Terry Deary
- "*Spy Kids Adventures*" (series) by Elizabeth Lenhard
- "*Look Into My Eyes*" (Ruby Redfort series) by Lauren Child
- "*Adventure Island*" (series) by Helen Moss
- "*Spy Dog*" (series) by Andrew Cope

What will help your child to read well?

- + Learning a range of **strategies for reading words** including sounding out and blending
- + Checking that their reading **makes sense**
- + Reading **different kinds of texts** – newspapers, menus, instructions, websites, non-fiction, etc.
- + **Understanding and enjoying** what they are reading
- + Being confident in talking about their reading
- + Reading **lots!**





Use this family checklist to see what your child is learning



Assignment 1

Missing words in the newspaper article



What will it help your child to learn?

- + To work out words they don't know by looking at the context
- + The meanings of new words

Tick here when your family has completed the assignment!

What can we do at home to help practise these skills?

Look at an article in the local newspaper. Scribble out a few of the words and get your child to guess what the words are by reading the rest of the article. Don't make it too difficult!

They could do the same for you...

Tick here when you have practised these skills at home!

Assignment 2

Questions about the crime scene pictures



What will it help your child to learn?

- + To pick up clues about text from pictures
- + To pick up clues from other information in the text
- + To develop questioning skills

Tick here when your family has completed the assignment!

What can we do at home to help practise these skills?

Find some old family photographs and ask your child questions about them. Can your child pick up the clues in the photos?

When/where do you think this photo was taken? How do you know?

Think up some more questions you could ask!



Tick here when you have practised these skills at home!

Assignment 3

Information about the suspects



What will it help your child to learn?

- + To get clues from a variety of texts
- + The meanings of new words

Tick here when your family has completed the assignment!



What can we do at home to help practise these skills?

When they are reading, get them to look up words they don't know and make their own dictionary!

Encourage them to read more.

Tick here when you have practised these skills at home!

Assignment 4

Evidence from the website



What will it help your child to learn?

- + To get useful information from websites
- + To pick out the important details when there is a lot of information

Tick here when your family has completed the assignment!

What can we do at home to help practise these skills?

Encourage them to look up information for the family—it might be about a place you are visiting or how to get somewhere, or a subject that interests them.



Tick here when you have practised these skills at home!